



SOUTH SANDY COVE, Mount Fairweather in distance, Glacier Bay National Monument. *Ansel Adams*

# SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

*December  
1951*

# Miscellany

[In reprinting the editorial from the Autumn 1951 *The Living Wilderness*, which calls special attention to the writings of Robert Marshall, we in turn should like to call attention to *The Wilderness Society*, which issues the magazine, and to the excellent work in behalf of Marshall's ideals by the Society's officers and editor, Howard Zahnizer. Dues are but \$2 per year (to 1840 Mintwood Place, N.W., Washington 9, D.C.), and we think conservation would be well served if it should happen that all members of the Sierra Club likewise supported the Wilderness Society. Many now do.—Ed.]

We call special attention in this issue of *THE LIVING WILDERNESS* to the writings of Robert Marshall, and we feel that we do well thus not only to honor the chief founder of our wilderness preservation movement but also to inspire ourselves anew with his example. Bob Marshall has been gone from us a dozen years this Armistice Day, yet were he still with us he would be only fifty years old—still in his prime, it would seem. The tragedy of his early departure is modified only by the vitality of the influence that he continues to exert—through his pioneering achievements as one who knew and appreciated wilderness and as a thinker and writer and a land administrator who was in a position to see wilderness areas defined and set aside for preservation, through his generous effectiveness likewise in providing in the Robert Marshall Wilderness Fund a continuing support for the movement he was so central in founding. His spirit lives on in us!

In the February 1930 issue of *The Scientific Monthly* his now classic article on "The Problem of the Wilderness" concluded with the militant and challenging statement: "There is just one hope of repulsing the tyrannical ambition of civilization to conquer every niche on the whole earth. That hope is the organization of spirited people who will fight for the freedom of the wilderness." Five years later a realization of that hope was brought into being in *The Wilderness Society*—to a great extent through Bob Marshall's own influence—and to

him the Society has always looked as a leader. At the top of each Page 1 of *THE LIVING WILDERNESS* we carry his suggestive phrase "for the freedom of the wilderness." We read in it a trinity of meanings derived from his leadership.

For one thing we are striving to keep our dedicated wilderness areas—our remnants of primitive America—free from invasions, encroachments, and inconsistent uses.

Then too we earnestly desire the freedom to enjoy wilderness, to have wild areas available not only for ourselves but for all others—now and in the long future.

In a broad sense we think also of the freedom that individuals and society as a whole can realize if we maintain our access to wildness. With Bob Marshall we sense Thoreau's great truth: "In Wildness is the preservation of the World."

We have today the marvelous wilderness preserved in our national park system, in the specially designated areas of our national forests, in wildlife refuges, on Indian reservations, in some of our state parks, in still other areas, and in some yet to be set aside. Our most particular, immediate purpose is to defend these dedicated areas. Our long-time, broad purpose is to increase the knowledge and appreciation of wilderness wherever found. It is our faith that for all conservation and civic groups wilderness preservation will become a major objective, and our ambition that we can be for all a source of information and the sponsors of this medium of publication *THE LIVING WILDERNESS*.

Thus do we aspire to a worthiness of the one whom we now honor. In a very real sense *The Wilderness Society* is an example of Ralph Waldo Emerson's definition of an institution as "the lengthened shadow of one man." That man is Robert Marshall. We honor his memory and strive to emulate his remarkable and effective combination of zealous devotion to an ideal with a reliance on research and investigation as the basis for action. We are inspired to see that his lengthened shadow is still lengthening.

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# Sierra Club Bulletin

VOLUME 36

DECEMBER, 1951

NUMBER 10

...TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT THE NATURAL MOUNTAIN SCENE...

## For the December Record

### *Echoes from Clair Tappaan*

The early season of skiing predicted long since has arrived in full force, and for the past two weeks skiing conditions have been excellent. In fact, according to Lewis Clark, who has been skiing in the area for more seasons than he would probably care to remember, snow conditions last week-end were about the best he has ever seen. At this writing, the snow is six feet deep and the weather man is promising more.

The Lodge is ready! Mike Curtis, our new manager, has had the experience of handling two fairly large week-end groups, and Rudy Talco, our new chef, has had his initiation. Rudy, by the way, was student manager for the Cal Lodge last year, so many of our club members will remember him. Dennis Whiles is holding ski classes on Pump House Hill and on Signal; the new rope has been installed; the tow is ready to go for the 1951-52 season.

Ride books have been established at the Jim Davis Sport Shop in Berkeley; at the Ski Hut, also in Berkeley; and at the club office in San Francisco. Since these books are established as a convenience, all registrations must be made in person or by mail, as phone calls will inconvenience the very people who have been so cooperative.

—*The Yodeler*, December 3

### *A Conservation Victory*

Kaibab National Forest has been worried for several years over increasing numbers of people who stake out mining claims

along the Entrance Highway (State 64) to Grand Canyon National Park. Kaibab National Forest officials find themselves unable to prevent such filing of claims, even though the "mineral" may be building stone or volcanic cinders and the real goal a filling station or hot-dog stand site. With the help of Grand Canyon National Park officials, who were vitally interested in maintaining natural conditions along the entrance highway, a bill was introduced in Congress by Congressman Patton of Arizona, to assure that only legitimate claims based on real mineral showings could be filed, thus protecting the highway from undesirable developments in the form of signs (allowed on private land but not on forest land) and nondescript wayside stands—of which there are too many. The Congressional Committee involved held a hearing at Grand Canyon at Eastertime, and by July a bill similar to one that had successfully prevented mining claim developments in Oak Creek Canyon, in the Coconino National Forest, had been passed.

The new law, although recognizing proper actual mineral deposits, restricts development to mining operations; and vests control of the surface developments in the secretaries of Agriculture and Interior.

All conservationists may rejoice over the success achieved in affording proper roadside protection to the South Entrance Highway to Grand Canyon National Park.

H. C. BRYANT, *Superintendent*  
*Grand Canyon National Park*

## Ski Tours—Northern

*Winter is upon us, snow has already bedecked the Sierra more than generously (we hope that this augurs the year of plenty Mr. Heald prognosticated a few years ago), and skis, base wax, poles, boots, etc., are brought to mind as the time approaches to mount the old boards and go sliding. Amidst all this preoccupation with the accoutrements of the sport, the Ski-Touring Committee would like to present the following program of ski tours.*

The primary purpose of these tours is to introduce the uninitiated to the ease and joys of venturing from the packed downhill slopes to the untrammelled deep powdery slopes—the playground of the ski-tourist. Thus we urge each one who thinks that he would like to try touring—but is reluctant for fear of inability, weak muscles, poor sense of direction or any other psychic block—will go on one or more of these trips. Most of these trips have been graded as to exertion (easy, moderate, strenuous) and skiing ability (fourth- and third-class) to guide the tyro. The Ski-Test Committee will have qualified test judges on each tour to give the test aspirants—and mere tourists too—pointers on their technique.

DAY TOURS will be conducted Saturday and/or Sunday each weekend from Clair



*Touring in Little Lakes Valley*



*Pear Lake Ski Hut*

Tappaan Lodge to areas north and south of Donner Pass as well as around Squaw Valley.

The leader's name and the destination will be posted above the Register or announced at breakfast so no prior arrangements need be made. These trips will vary greatly in length and difficulty in order to include every person from pure bunny to pure christy-er, and will incidentally provide the opportunity to pass the fourth-class test in an easy and enjoyable manner. Ned Robinson has further information.

**OVERNIGHT-CABIN TOURS.** After a few day tours the overnight-cabin ski tours are the next advance for the novice in ski touring. The following schedule, although subject to the vagaries of the weather, should provide ample opportunity for each skier so desiring, to get to one of the ski cabins in the Sierra.

January 5-6: Peter Grubb Hut. Leader: Charlotte England, ASHberry 3-1055.

January 12-13: John Benson Hut. For information call Dave Cudaback, THornwall 3-7304, or Alan Stiles, ASHberry 3-9758.

January 19-20: Squaw Valley-John Benson



Hut-Norden. Call Information (as listed above).

January 26-27: Peter Grubb Hut. Leader to be named. Call Information.

February 2-3: John Benson Hut. Call Information.

February 9-10—Peter Grubb Hut. Leader: Lou Henrich, ASherbury 3-4939.

February 22-23-24: Pear Lake Ski Hut. Call Information.

March 1-2: Ostrander Lake Ski Hut. Call Information.

March 8-9: Peter Grubb Hut-Castle Creek. Leader: Holly Hay, THornwall 3-2365.

March 29-30 — Glacier Point. Leader: Chuck Wharton, LAndscape 6-0501.

SKI-CAMPING TOURS. At last we are freed of having to take the worn trails to the ski cabins and by means of a little heavier pack on our back, the wide horizons of the ski

camper are opened to us. The three trips shown may be postponed because of weather so please contact the leaders well in advance. March 15-16: Desolation Valley. Leader: Dick Blumberg, THornwall 3-6015.

February 16-17: Castle Creek Basin. Leader: Dave Cudaback, THornwall 3-7304.

March 22-23: Site for Rolf Pundt ski cabin. Leader: Lewis F. Clark, LAkehurst 2-1650.

A card or letter addressed to any of the above leaders in care of the Club office will bring information on any of the trips.

One of the supplementary purposes of this schedule is to seek out and develop leaders for the future trips and it is hoped that this program, by catering to the bunny, as we all are, may encourage a greater utilization of the ski trails to the back country, a goal which can be attained by wider leadership participation.

### Sierra Crest Ski Trail : To Benson Hut



*Below are an editorial and a guest-editorial reply which appeared in the Denver Post, November 15 and 21, respectively.*

*The speech made by Secretary Chapman in which he expressed to the National Audubon Society the hope that alternative dam sites might make construction of Echo Park and Split Mountain dams unnecessary has*

*resulted in of Assista Club, Nov the same If you h wire to Sec for retaini to him in*

## The Accusation

### REVERSING HIS FIELD

Secretary of the Interior Chapman seems to be weakening in his decision to urge Congress to authorize construction of the Echo Park and Split Mountain dams in northwestern Colorado.

More than a year ago, the secretary gave the two projects his blessing after reclamation engineers had testified that dams at those locations would give Colorado, Utah and other western states greater benefits from their share of Colorado River water than could be obtained from any possible alternative dams.

From all standpoints, including the prevention of the loss of water through evaporation, Echo Park and Split Mountain provide the best available sites, the engineers testified.

At the same hearing, wilderness and outdoor enthusiasts opposed the dams on the ground that the reservoirs they would create would encroach upon Dinosaur National Monument and "drown out" a certain amount of canyon scenery, scenery which only a relatively few persons have ever seen because of the remoteness of the region.

Mr. Chapman was caught between the

opposing views of two bureaus which are under his jurisdiction—the bureau of reclamation and the national park service, which administers national monuments.

He ruled, however, in favor of the greatest possible use of Colorado River water which is in short supply and represents the only hope for developing the untapped soil, mineral and forest resources of a vast area.

Since the secretary made his decision, various clubs and societies devoted to the preservation of scenery, even at the expense of economic well-being, have been conducting a high-powered campaign against Echo Park and Split Mountain.

Now Mr. Chapman says he is hopeful of working out a solution whereby those dams need not be built. His switch in attitude requires a fuller explanation than he has given so far.

Either the secretary has come to mistrust the opinion of his own reclamation experts or he is in a mood to sacrifice scarce and precious water belonging to the upper Colorado River basin states so that a few hardy tourists can look at a remote canyon.

Mr. Chapman owes it to the people of his own state and its neighboring states to spell out the reasons for his belated change of view.

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## Dinosaur Controversy

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resulted in a flood of criticism. The speech of Assistant Secretary Doty to the Sierra Club, November 10, has resulted in more of the same kind of pressure.

If you haven't already done so, a letter or wire to Secretary Chapman commending him for retaining an open mind would be helpful to him in resisting such pressure.

### A Reply

#### GUEST EDITORIAL

You rebuke Secretary of Interior Oscar Chapman for stating that he hopes "we might work out a solution whereby the Split Mountain and Echo Park dams need not be built in Dinosaur National Monument." Seems to us that in your editorial of Nov. 15 "Reversing His Field" you were not quite fair nor entirely accurate.

It is unlike the *Post* to demand that Secretary Chapman completely abandon the responsibility placed on him by Congress to protect the national park system. And unlike the *Post* to demand construction of these two dams irrespective of possibilities that the purposes of the Upper Colorado Basin project might be carried out fully without destroying a national park unit and perhaps at even lesser cost.

The project as presently proposed is primarily based on the Bureau of Reclamation's 1947 report. The Bureau has stated this report is preliminary. It has stated that it has not studied some of the potential dam-sites thoroughly. The Bureau admits that additional data need to be collected.

Secretary Chapman would be doing less than his duty were he to recommend to Congress, and to the people of the nation, that it reverse its clearly stated policy that national parks be protected until he is in a position to prove beyond doubt that such action is inescapable. This he can hardly do prior to thorough study of alternative possibilities. Suggestions as to alternative possibilities have been made by competent engineering authority. They deserve careful study.

The *Post* is inaccurate in implying that conservation organizations, such as the Izaak Walton League, are concerned only with preserving scenery and would sacrifice economic well being to that end. It knows better, and that is not the issue in any event. The argument that few persons have visited the Monument is spurious. It is true, it is a fact, which no one disputes, that few persons have had the opportunity to visit the Monument. It is almost untapped recreation resource, which with development of access roads and needed facilities would be available to countless millions in the future. To write off that resource as valueless because it hasn't been available, is as absurd as to claim the water and power potentials of the Upper Basin are valueless because they haven't yet been put to use.

As we review the record, Secretary Chapman has not reversed himself, but has shown that in spite of his instructions to the Bureau last year, he still has an open mind, and is willing to consider other possibilities for achieving the same end values. He is to be commended. While some others might disagree, the object of the Upper Colorado Basin project is not to build Echo Park and Split Mountain dams, but is to develop the water resources of the region. To that the Izaak Walton League can readily agree.

By all standards of discharging public responsibility, with vision, honesty—and it seems to require courage, too—Secretary Chapman demonstrates stature in the Dinosaur controversy. That is good, and mighty refreshing in this day and age.

J. W. PENFOLD,  
*Western Representative  
Izaak Walton League of America*

## Excerpts . . .

### *. . . Address of Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman at the Annual Dinner Meeting of the National Audubon Society, New York City, November 13, 1951.*

For me, this occasion is doubly significant. First, it is a cherished honor to join the National Audubon Society in commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the death of John James Audubon. The perspective of a century shows us how truly this man's love of nature and his skill in interpreting it were monumental influences upon the attitude of man toward his environment. Without such enlightenment, America might have been much slower in awakening to the need to conserve the natural resources upon which its very existence depends.

Abiding interest in a common cause is a second bond which draws people together. Thus, it is especially pleasing to me, as head of the Department responsible for the conservation of so large a portion of this country's natural resources, to meet with you who have such a distinguished record in this field of endeavor, and to talk with you about things with which we are mutually concerned.

Working with you in obtaining legislation by the Congress and a proclamation by the President designating 1951 as Audubon Centennial Year was a gratifying experience for me and my associates in the Department. Fresh in all our memories are our joint efforts to give a fighting chance for survival to the roseate spoonbill, the whooping crane, and the California condor . . .

One of the inherent limitations of working closely with a problem is the possibility of failure to see things in their context. Knowing this, I have consistently sought to bring perspective to my work by calling upon the best available counsel in matters with which I am concerned. In March 1948, my predecessor created an Advisory Committee on Conservation, and it has been our good fortune through this committee to have access to the opinions and advice of the top leadership of America in the field of conservation.

It is my sincere intent that this committee be neither an empty gesture nor a sounding board, but an effective instrument in reaching the policy decisions that must be made. Through it, I seek to find the greatest possible accord in lay viewpoints and the best thinking of the Department in natural resources matters. Your own John Baker from the beginning has been a valued member of this committee. I am appreciative of his many constructive contributions in this capacity, and I have a high regard for his opinions . . .

When I visit a national park, I am always reminded of the wisdom of those farsighted men who long ago saw the need to save remnants of the natural grandeur and wildlife that existed in Audubon's day as a part of our national heritage. Opportunities to enjoy the unspoiled beauty of a Glacier National Park, to marvel at the wonders of a Yellowstone, or to thrill to a procession of trumpeter swans and cygnets upon one of its quiet lakes, or to meet the vastness of time and of geological events upon the stage of an undisturbed Grand Canyon, are things our people must never lose.

I am proud that during my time with the Department of the Interior, I have witnessed the addition to the national park system of seven national parks, five national historical parks, 24 national monuments, and 24 other types of areas and features worthy of being included.

The coming years, and the continuing inroads of necessary commercial economic uses and wear upon the face of our land will make increasingly evident the wisdom of preserving these things as we have done. I suspect that future generations may wonder at our timidity in failing to dedicate even larger segments of our superlative wild lands for man's inspiration and recreation.

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I assure you that I by no means consider that the national park system is complete....

This long-established role of the Department has experienced a tremendous step-up during the past decade under the urgencies of war and defense preparation. The pressure of necessities upon this program has not always permitted the thoroughness of exhaustive studies and the deliberate weighing of every long-range value involved in a particular instance. As a result, there have been instances where conflicts of interest have arisen between bureau functions within the Department itself, and between the proposals of the Department and the desires or interests of sincere conservationists including your own Society.

I subscribe to the view that a better balance is needed in our plans for resource conservation, development, and use, and for greater recognition of all factors in such planning....

A different decision faced me following the hearing of April 3, 1950, in the matter of water development in Dinosaur National Monument as contemplated in the Upper Colorado River Basin Report. I wish that circumstances had permitted another solution to be reached. As you perhaps know, even after I made my decision, based on the public hearing, I told a group of conservationists in my office that I would not submit the Colorado River Storage Project Report to Congress until after they had had an opportunity to study the possibilities for an alternative solution, and I instructed the National Park Service to work with the conservation people in collecting such material as was necessary in order to carry on these studies. I sincerely hope that we might work out a solution whereby the Split Mountain and Echo Park Dams need not be built in Dinosaur National Monument.

On February 21 of this year, I issued a Departmental Order reaffirming the long-established policies of the Department and Congress assuring the conservation of the national parks and monuments and their

protection from adverse effects of power, reclamation, or other water developments. I have instructed that there shall be no "investigations or studies—drilling, surveys, or other exploratory work incident to the preparation of reports or plans relating to water development" nor any obligation of "Federal funds therefor, except where the Congress has specifically authorized such a project in the reserved area concerned," without my written approval. This Order applies not only to the national park system, but also to national forest wilderness areas and wildlife refuges.

Another provision of the Order is that "where it appears—in the public interest to permit the investigation of proposed power and reclamation projects—the resulting reports—shall contain comparable data on all alternative project possibilities, adequate for the Secretary to reach an informed decision as to which project, if any should be selected."....

All of us know that mere impoundment of water does not in itself create, and may well destroy, valuable wildlife habitat. But scientists' study and purposeful planning are creating optimum benefits to wildlife from the impoundments that have been and will be created on Reclamation projects. New fishing waters are being created, and old ones rehabilitated. Many reservoirs are serving as resting stops along wildfowl flyways, or as wintering grounds for these birds....

... groups such as yours must continue your vigilance and aggressive activities in conservation of our perishable resources. I assure you that my department will cooperate in every possible way in your programs which affect the operations of its bureaus, and I welcome your continued support in our efforts to guard and manage wisely the resources entrusted to us. I feel secure in the prediction that another hundred years will see the influence of John James Audubon undiminished, and the stature of your society and the roll of its achievements grown beyond your present dreams.

## More Excerpts . . .

### *. . . Remarks of Assistant Secretary of the Interior Dale E. Doty, at the Annual Dinner of the Sierra Club, Los Angeles, November 10, 1951*

As a fellow Californian and a long-time admirer of the Sierra Club, and of its ideals and conservation objectives, I am especially pleased and honored to be with you tonight.

Secretary Chapman and I want you to know of the high regard we have for the Sierra Club. We appreciate the helpful views and support given the Department by the Club and its distinguished members individually, on a wide range of conservation issues. . . .

The objective of a balanced resource development is to seek the minimum of conflicts among uses and to realize the greatest values from all the resources. Unfortunately our tools for measuring the comparative benefits and values of various alternatives are not perfect. The special interests of various groups of our society seldom are in a balanced development of resources but in some particular resource.

As a result, numerous controversies rage over such questions as the construction of dams on the Rogue River, the Middle Fork of the Kings River, and in the Dinosaur National Monument. Other examples are the use of the San Jacinto Wilderness area for a tramway, or the leasing of the Okefenokee Wildlife Refuge for oil drilling. . . .

#### *On Rogue River*

. . . You know how controversial the proposed irrigation and power developments in the Rogue River Basin became because other, and possibly more important, uses of resources were not given adequate consideration. Instead of a water and power plan, we need a balanced, multiple-purpose, basin-wide plan in which the important scenic, fish and wildlife, and other recreational resources will be properly evaluated and protected.

A new plan has recently been worked out and proposed by organizations within the Rogue River Basin. It appears to be a rea-

sonable and appropriate program to adopt while the balanced, long-range proposals are being formulated. Briefly the new plan would provide for improvements and renovations of existing works and some new construction to meet immediate irrigation needs, but no new high dams would be located on the main stream. The sponsors of the plan offer it with the definite understanding it will not be considered a "foot-in-the-door" for the earlier, controversial proposals. I have talked this proposal over recently with some officials of the Izaak Walton League, who believe that it will be acceptable.

#### *On Glacier View Dam*

On another conservation front I feel I must tell you that there is disquieting news concerning the Glacier View Dam proposal, which would seriously impair Glacier National Park. An official in the Corps of Engineers has recently brought the subject into the public limelight again.

You may be sure that we will continue to oppose a Glacier View dam. No one knows what the alternatives are. This is another reminder to conservationists both in and out of Government that constant vigilance is necessary if national parks, wildlife, and scenic wilderness areas are to be protected.

#### *On Dinosaur*

I mentioned Dinosaur National Monument and I want to tell you the present status of that situation. The Bureau of Reclamation's project planning report for the Upper Colorado River Storage Project, including Echo Park as one of the units, together with the comments of the States concerning it are now before the Secretary and me for consideration. There is also before the Department the further report on alternative proposals prepared by General U. S.

Grant, 3rd. At Secretary Chapman's request, the Park Service assisted in collecting data for this study. It is my hope that alternative plans can eventually be worked out to avoid the use of the National Monument for water storage purposes.

Conservationists have applauded Secretary Chapman's order issued last February requiring his written approval before any agency of the Department of the Interior can undertake, or continue, investigations for water-control proposals in any national park, monument, wilderness area or wildlife refuge. Only one approval involving a national monument has been granted under this order, and that is for the continuation of preliminary investigations that were under way in Dinosaur National Monument. I think that you would like to know that when he signed this approval Secretary Chapman added in his own handwriting, "But no drilling." Approval has not been given for investigation in any national park.

It is very necessary that all of the bureaus of the Department of the Interior and everyone else concerned work together in the closest harmony if we are to resolve conflicts in the use of our resources without sacrificing essential values for the orderly over-all development of our great country. There are those who openly urge dam construction without regard for other values involved.

Sometimes they shortsightedly appeal to sectionalism. We all know that conservation is not a matter between easterners and westerners—it is nationwide in importance and scope. Each part of our country benefits from unbiased, sound solutions to such problems. Westerners as well as easterners love the wilderness and appreciate its importance. The Sierra Club itself is evidence of this. The difficulties and misunderstandings more often than not arise from failure—or refusal to take all important factors into account and provide for them properly before the promotion begins. We are not opposed to the *right things*—and many of them are the right things—but we must continue to insist that they not be put in the *wrong places*.

Surely we can afford to use a little more ingenuity, a little more time or even a little more money, if necessary, in figuring out

complex engineering projects when by so doing we preserve for Americans some samples of their scenic and cultural heritage.

No one denies that the West needs water developments, especially in view of the great population gains made in recent years. It also needs more recreational areas rather than less, not only for itself, but to take care of the greatly increasing use being made of them by tourists from all over the country.

Unfortunately, an issue such as that involving Dinosaur National Monument might create the impression that there is major discord between the Bureau of Reclamation and the National Park Service. On the contrary, there is an impressive history of effective cooperation between them. They are doing a fine job of cooperative planning for recreation in connection with river basin developments throughout the West.

#### *On National Parks*

The West has a huge economic stake in the National Parks and other tourist objectives. The American Automobile Association placed the value of vacation travel in the United States at *ten billion dollars* in 1950. Seventy-two million Americans—nearly half of our population—traveled during their vacations last year. Nearly thirty-three millions of them had areas of the National Park System as their major travel objectives. This year there was a record of thirty-six and a half million visitors to the National Parks.

It is significant too, as the American Automobile Association points out, that 16 States rank travel among their three most important industries. Five of these are western States—Arizona, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, and Wyoming. . . .

The need for the balanced conservation and development of our natural resources was recognized by a task force of the Hoover Commission which considered this subject. Recommendations of this task force for a single Federal Department of Natural Resources had this end in view.

More recently, the report of the President's Water Resources Policy Commission restated the need for bringing all resources conservation studies and action programs into balance with the expanding water de-

velopment programs. The recommendations of this commission are being thoroughly analyzed by our Department and being given intensive and serious study by the President's Executive Office. In my opinion the commission's report did not go far enough in recommending more favorable consideration of resource preservation of parks and wilderness areas when in conflict with power, flood control and irrigation planning.

Currently, another commission, the President's Materials Policy Commission, is studying the long-range conservation aspects of the nation's supply of materials required for production. It is too early to tell what the recommendations of this commission may be. I hope that through the studies of these commissions we can attain the objective of truly comprehensive and balanced resources programs for the nation.

I know that you would like to hear something more of the plans of the National Park Service. . . .

Mr. Conrad L. Wirth, whom many of you know, will be the new director of the National Park Service. He also is a career Park Service employee, and we are certain he, like the great leaders of the Service who preceded him, will as vigorously defend it against threats of encroachment and enlarge its usefulness to the American people.

In view of the pending change of the Directorship of the National Park Service, some question has been raised on whether there is to be a change in policy. I want to assure you that the major policies governing the protection and use of the National Park System are so firmly established and are so well known to conservationists throughout the nation that I cannot conceive of any director of the National Park Service, or any other officer of the Department of the Interior, undertaking to make any radical changes in those policies. The National Park System is here to stay, it will carry out its mission of preserving for public enjoyment the great scenic and historic places of America. . . .

#### *Six Objectives*

1. In planning for the period ahead the Park Service has certain definite objectives. Of first and primary importance, of course, is

the protection of the areas and resources of the National Park System. Protection of park resources includes not only their preservation from destructive commercial uses but their protection, also, from the adverse effects of over-use by visitors. It is easy enough to show good cause why we should oppose a proposed mining, logging or reservoir project which would damage a national park. It is just as essential and difficult to protect the parks from the less spectacular but more insidious damages that can result from lack of knowledge, funds, and personnel so essential to the successful use and management of these areas.

2. The second objective is to get in order the physical plant necessary to serve the visiting public. I shall not dwell on these inadequacies for they are well known to the members of the Sierra Club. The fact that innumerable people must be turned away from the parks year after year because there are no places where they may spend the night is typical of the problems we face in building up the physical plant.

3. The third and related objective is to provide adequate accommodations and other special types of facilities to serve the public in the national parks. This requires a sound basis for the investment of private capital but at the same time protecting the public interest by assuring reasonable prices. We must maintain an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect on the part of both the Government and the concessionaires. In this respect, I feel that great progress has been made in the establishment of a sound concessions policy within the past year.

4. The fourth objective is the broadening and strengthening of the interpretive services required to make the parks and monuments more enjoyable, significant, and meaningful. How best to present a park area to the visitor is probably the most complicated and fundamental of all the problems. We need the best advice obtainable and it is in this phase of the work that we look especially for assistance from educational institutions, and public spirited organizations such as your own Sierra Club.

5. The fifth objective is the proper growth and extension of the National Park System. The high standards governing the selection and inclusion of areas are set by the system as it exists today, and are well known. These standards, like the policies governing the protection and use of the national parks, are widely accepted and I see no reason to question them. The National Park System, however, has in large part, been established without any over-all guiding plan as to what it ought to include. Consequently, it grew in the easiest directions, through the creation of parks from lands already in public ownership. National parks must be established only where the scenery is of the highest quality. There are still a few such areas in both the East and West which should in time be set aside. I have in mind sections of the seashore, the shores of the Great Lakes, and along some of our major rivers.

6. The sixth objective, the strengthening of cooperative services for the development of park and recreational area facilities by all levels of Government is closely related to what I have just said about the extension of the National Park System.

In this regard, the efforts of the Federal Government should be to strengthen and complement the park systems and organizations of the States and their political subdivisions, and should not undertake to relieve them of any responsibility. Under the Historic Sites Act of 1935 and the Park and Recreation Study Act of 1936, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to cooperate with the States and their political subdivisions in providing adequate and coordinated public park facilities for the people of the United States. Such cooperative work is a major responsibility of the Department and is one which we hope to strengthen at every opportunity. These same acts of Congress likewise authorize our cooperation with, and the extension of consultative services to, other Federal agencies in planning for the development of recreation facilities on other Federal lands, for example, in connection with Federal reservoirs. . . .

This group, certainly, doesn't need to be told of the inspirational and recreational values of the High Sierra. You know, also,

the many problems we have in protecting it without preventing its use and enjoyment. There are many deficiencies that must be corrected and we need your continued help and support in finding ways and means to overcome them.

We recognize, to name a few, the problems of protecting the high mountain meadows; the need for more adequate signs; the need for drift fences and gates for stock and trail maintenance and improvement. There are other problems of use and overuse, and, of course, the situation isn't improved by the almost complete lack of protection personnel in the back country.

There is some hope in this situation, however, and we have the Sierra Club to thank for it. We appreciate especially the fine work you are doing in teaching the increasing numbers of visitors how to use the high country without using it up. Many of them just don't realize the importance of leaving clean camps, of putting out their fires and of minimizing the wear and tear on the areas they use. Your example and your code of ethics in the use of the back country are of tremendous importance in helping the American public to learn how to properly enjoy this limited and irreplaceable resource.

#### *On Kings Canyon*

There are other matters relating to Kings Canyon National Park that you are no doubt wondering about. You have been concerned, as we have, as to the extent and location of developments for public use in the Cedar Grove vicinity. We intend to stand on the decision that the road up the floor of Kings Canyon shall not extend beyond Copper Creek. I know that you had questions about the advisability of going even that far and I want you to know that Secretary Chapman and I appreciate your considered concurrence in the proposal, in view of the commitments that were made when the Park was established.

We are fully aware, too, of the circumstances and commitments which resulted in leaving the Cedar Grove and Tehipite Valley reservoir sites outside the Park.

The Kings River Water Association acquiesced in the Park's establishment without the inclusion of these two areas. The Asso-



ciation wanted them kept available until it could be determined whether or not Kings River water and power needs could be satisfied by other projects. Until the Association, by official action of its officers, notifies us that they are willing for these areas to be made part of the Park, we intend to stand by our commitment. This does not prevent us, however, from opposing dam construction at these sites by parties other than the Association.

There is no question that these two areas are of national park quality. I would like to see them added to the Park and I hope that, eventually, it can be done.

The current proposals of the Bureau of Reclamation are confined to developments on the North Fork of the Kings River, which, of course, would not affect Kings Canyon National Park. There are unmistakable indications, however, that the Bureau is still interested in the possibility of development of hydroelectric power in Cedar Grove and Tehipite Valley. I am sure that the Sierra Club and the Kings River Water Association will both want to keep a close watch on these two great canyon areas until

they can be included in the park, where they belong.

I am especially mindful tonight—and thankful—that in the 1890's there were such men of wisdom and vision as John Muir and his illustrious contemporaries, who saw the need for and organized the Sierra Club. Your purposes—"To explore, enjoy, and render accessible the mountain regions of the Pacific Coast," "to publish authentic information concerning them," and "to enlist the support and cooperation of the people and Government in preserving the forests and other natural features of the Sierra Nevada Mountains" are as important, admirable and necessary now as they were in Muir's time. And you have, through your knowledge and the eminence of your members, the power to carry on in the manner of your illustrious beginning.

I have greatly appreciated the opportunity to meet with you tonight and I hope that we in the Department of the Interior shall continue as we have for so many years to enjoy each other's confidence in the interest of conservation in its broadest and finest sense for the public good.

## Engineers Outline Projects for Columbia Basin

BOISE, Oct. 24 (Special).—Army corps of engineers and bureau of reclamation projects which would change the face of the Columbia basin were outlined Wednesday at an executive committee meeting of the Columbia basin interagency committee in Idaho's senate chambers.

The meeting—with heavy emphasis on such controversial projects as Hells Canyon, Ice Harbor, Lower Monumental, Little Goose, Lower Granite and Glacier View dams—constituted the first public presentation in four years of the two agencies' comprehensive plans.

### Big Jobs Listed

Brig. Gen. O. E. Walsh, north Pacific division engineer, listed as existing and building projects in the Columbia and Willamette basins "main control plan dams":

Libby, Priest Rapids, John Day, The Dalles, the four lower Snake dams, all au-

thorized; Albeni Falls, now under construction; Glacier View or an alternate, and Hells Canyon, like Glacier View, still unauthorized.

Col. John B. Buehler, Seattle district engineer, said Glacier View dam, which would provide flood control in the Kalispell, Mont., area, will be a suspended project "until such time as the department of interior feels that it can give the needs of the Northwest area preference over the views of the national park service," which opposes the project because it would back water onto a corner of Glacier national park.

### Flood, Power Considered

Col. William H. Mills, Walla Walla district engineer, described flood and power characteristics of the middle Columbia and Snake rivers, and pointed out that "continuation of navigation up the Snake is economically justifiable and necessary to the in-

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Nez Perce, Mountain Sheep and Kooskia dam sites have been rejected for the main control plan, he said. Kooskia, on the middle fork of the Clearwater, was considered as an alternative to Glacier View, but would flood three small towns. Less objectionable alternate sites being considered are Swan Falls, Asotin, Clarkston, Crevice, Freedom, Penny Cliffs, Elkberry and Bruce Eddy.

#### *Output to Be Large*

Now recommended, in spite of opposition, are Hells Canyon, Ice Harbor, Lower Monumental, Little Goose and Lower Granite; in addition, 24 sub-basin projects were recommended for the Walla Walla district, primarily for flood control.

Colonel Mills said McNary, the four lower Snake dams, Hells Canyon and nine existing or proposed bureau of reclamation dams in the upper Snake basin would develop 1,910,000 kilowatts of continuous system power and provide over 5,000,000 kilowatts of installed capacity.

#### *New Measure Offered*

Harold T. Nelson, regional bureau of reclamation chief, said in opening presentation of reclamation's program that a new bill to authorize the Snake River project, Hells canyon dam, upper and lower Scrivner creek dams recently was introduced in congress.

—From The Portland *Oregonian*,  
October 25, 1951

## Threat to the Matterhorn

The Italian Company who are seeking to build a cable railway up the Matterhorn have received authority subject to the approval of the Council of State, to establish a line by way of the Furggrat to the Italian summit. They claim that this will draw "flocks of Sunday tourists from the towns" to Breuil, and will enable a beacon for aircraft to be set up at the summit.

The Italian Alpine Club have started a press campaign against the scheme and, through the Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinisme, have called for the support of the mountaineering organisations of other countries. A letter to *The Times*,

signed by the President and surviving past-Presidents of the Alpine Club has called the attention of the British public to the scheme and set forth the objections to it, which are, we believe, shared by the vast majority of climbers in this country. Presidents of British clubs, as well as individual mountaineers, are urged to support the Italian Alpine Club by expressing their views in letters to the President of the U.I.A.A. (Boul. des Tranchées 16, Geneva). Such action, if taken quickly, will help the C.A.I. to show the volume of world-wide opposition which exists.

—*Mountaineering*, September 1951



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*A Familiar Ring?* THE NORTH WALES HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEMES

There is no reason to hope that the British Electricity Authorities have in any way modified their intention to ask Parliament for powers to disfigure the Snowdon National Park with extensive hydro-electric works. The fate of the proposal will probably be decided in the coming winter and it can only be hoped that Parliament will realise the genuine and widespread opposition which the threat of these schemes has aroused throughout the country.

Whatever superficial attractions the schemes possess, they tend to vanish when subjected to careful examination. For example, much has been said of the need to make North Wales self-sufficient in the matter of electrical power supply, but calculations show that with the present rise in the demand for such power, by the time the schemes are completed they will supply not more than one-tenth of local demands, and the rest will have to be supplied by coal-fired stations. Is it really unreasonable to oppose these schemes which, for so small a gain, will wreck the National Park ideals?

In the Val d'Isère in Savoie, there is being constructed at Tignes a dam and reservoir

similar in scale to that proposed in the Ogwen valley in North Wales; there is an inferno of quarries, cement works, workshops, cable ways and rail-tracks in what was formerly one of the pleasantest of the high Alpine villages; the road down the valley has disintegrated completely under the stream of lorry traffic; nor does distance lend enchantment to the view, since the scene of desolation is plainly visible from near the Col du Bonhomme nearly twenty miles away to the North.

While one may regret such schemes in the Alps, it must be remembered that the French Alps cover more than ten times the area of the North Wales National Park, where twelve new power stations, with all their attendant works, will be packed in about 870 square miles.

Can it be called an exaggeration to say that such works conflict absolutely with the ideal of a National Park which is, in the words of the N.P. Committee "an extensive area of beautiful and relatively wild country in which, for the nation's benefit, the characteristic landscape beauty is strictly preserved."—*Mountaineering*, September 1951.

### New Ski Journal Out

The big magazine number of the *American Ski Annual and Skiing Journal* (the November issue of the quarterly) is now out and available at most ski shops (\$1.50).

Editor Roger Langley has again assembled a huge issue (256 pages), filled with articles on many phases of skiing, well illustrated, and rounded out with an array of advertisements that would make envious any editor of a non-profit publication.

Most of the articles are concerned with competitive skiing. This is quite appropriate in an Olympic Winter Games season in which the National Ski Association of America, which puts out the journal, also sponsors the American team. But we still wish, as we did when

we first reviewed an *American Ski Annual*, that there were more articles that had special appeal to the non-racers—the millions of them—who take to the boards regularly. We felt then, and say now, that skiing would be on a still firmer foundation than it is if there were more appeal made to the interests of those who either never intend to race or who long since gave racing up.

But there are many articles of general interest—more than enough to give the ordinary skier more than his money's worth. And we have a good hunch that there would be still more, on such subjects as huts, touring, and ski mountaineering, if the people who know about these subjects would write about them and send their contributions to Roger Langley.

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